

July 23, 2004

Chairman Michael K. Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 03-133

Dear Chairman Powell:

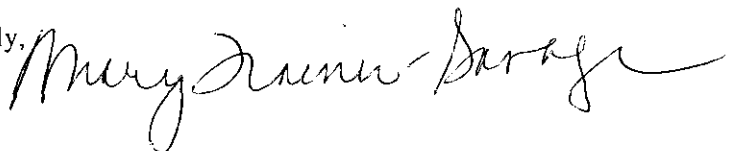
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The Bell companies want to target those calls in which a caller uses a pre-paid calling card and dials a toll-free number, along with his or her PIN. The caller, who may be in Virginia, for example, is connected to a “platform” in another state -- let’s say in Nebraska. From this “platform,” he or she hears a message about a company, non-profit or person. The caller then dials the telephone number of someone in Virginia. Current rules, as well as common sense, state that this represents two calls, one from Virginia to Nebraska and one from Nebraska to Virginia. Both calls are subject to interstate access charges because there is a call to Nebraska and then a separate call to Virginia.

But the Bell companies want to treat this as a single in-state call so they can levy exorbitant in-state access charges. Such fees have no relationship whatsoever to the Bell companies’ actual costs, which are only a fraction of what they want to charge consumers.

Prices are already rising for gas, milk and other products. Consumers don’t need higher prices for phone calls too, especially when these higher rates represent a blatant giveaway to four large corporations.

I am aware that the long distance companies and others that sell pre-paid calling cards have weighed in with the FCC in an effort to protect their customers’ interests in this manner. It is now time for the FCC to weigh in on the side of consumers and show the Bell companies the door on this issue.

Sincerely, 

ccs: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bernie Shapiro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nellie Cuttendo", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Katherine Rogers". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

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Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
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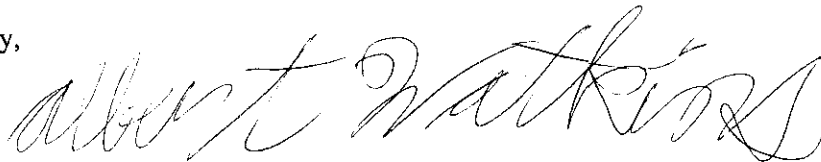
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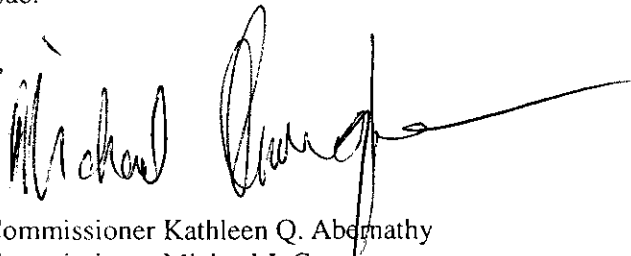
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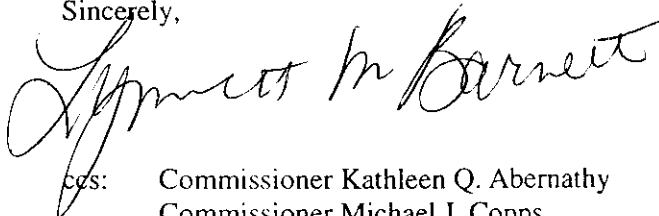
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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lynne M. Barnett". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and titles.

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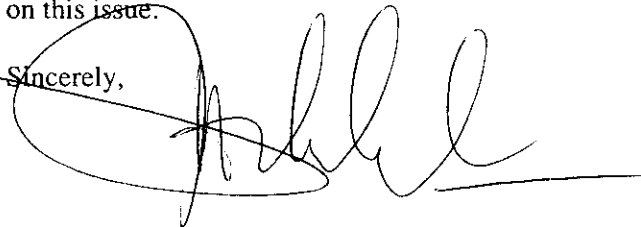
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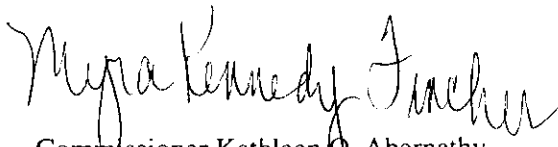
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Prices are already rising for gas, milk and other products. Consumers don’t need higher prices for phone calls too, especially when these higher rates represent a blatant giveaway to four large corporations.

I am aware that the long distance companies and others that sell pre-paid calling cards have weighed in with the FCC in an effort to protect their customers’ interests in this manner. It is now time for the FCC to weigh in on the side of consumers and show the Bell companies the door on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Myra Kennedy Tucker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the distribution list.

ccs: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

July 23, 2004

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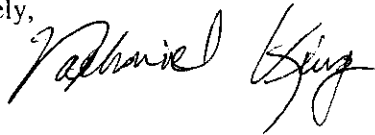
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathaniel King". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nathaniel" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "King".

ccs: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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ccs: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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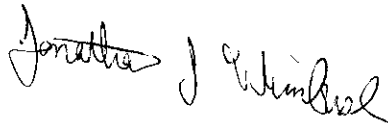
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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jonathan S. Adelstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jonathan" being more prominent and the last name "Adelstein" written in a more compact, stylized manner.

ccs: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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Sincerely,

*Michelle A. Means*

ccs: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
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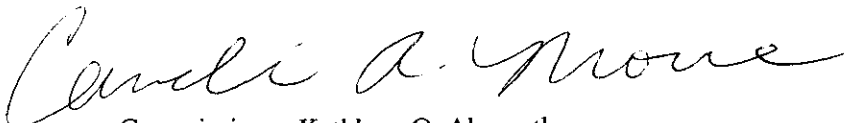
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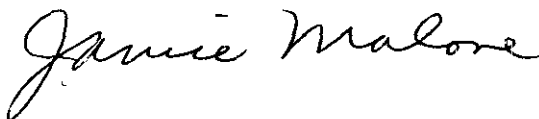
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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jamie Malone". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

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Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
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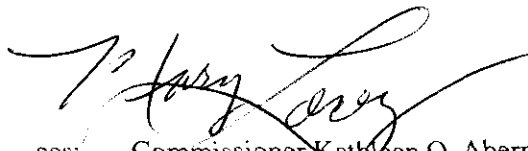
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